

Message Text

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R 270001Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT THE HAGUE 3221 SENT ACTION SECSTATE

INFO BERN PRETORIA VIENNA DTD 25 JUN 75

QUOTE:

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG NL SF

SUBJ: PROPOSED US-DUTCH SWISS SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO SOUTH AFRICA

1. DURING A JUNE 24 CONVERSATION WITH THE DCM FONOFF STATE SECRETARY KOOIJMANS MENTIONED THAT AN UNSPECIFIED DUTCH FIRM WAS INVOLVED WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC AND AN UNSPECIFIED SWISS FIRM IN A PROSPECTIVE SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO SOUTH AFRICA. AS FAR AS THE NETHERLANDS WAS CONCERNED, THE PROPOSED DEAL WOULD BE "TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE" AND GENERATE LOTS OF EMPLOYMENT. KOOIJMANS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WERE MAJOR POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS TO PARTICIPATING IN THE SALE SINCE NUCLEAR POWER IS A SUPER-SENSITIVE SUBJECT HERE AND THE PRESENT SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME

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IS ANATHEMA TO VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE POLITICAL SPECTRUM.

2. KOOIJMANS INDICATED THAT THE PROPOSED SALE WAS NOW BEFORE HIS MINISTRY FOR AN ADVISORY OPINION, IT HAVING ALREADY

CLEARED THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, WHICH DULY NOTED THE SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES. KOOIJMANS SAID FRANKLY THAT IT WOULD BE OF GREAT HELP IN "SELLING"THE DEAL TO THE DUTH PARLIAMENT AND PUBLIC OPINION IF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA WOULD EITHER GIVE A COMMITMENT TO RATIFY THE NPT EXPEDITIOUSLY OR FOLLOW THE US EXAMPLE AND SIGNIFY ITS ACCEPTANCE OF MORE STRIGENT SAFEGUARDS THAN THOSE REQUIRED BY THE IAEA. HE ASKED IF US AUTHORITIES HAD ANY INFORMATION RE SOUTH AFRICA'S INTENTIONS ON THIS POINT. DCM SAID HE WOULD INQUIRE AND LET KOOIJMANS KNOW.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OR PRETORIA CAN PROVIDE ON SOUTH AFRICA'S INTENTIONF RE NPT AND SAFEGUARDS AND HOW USG VIEWS THE PROPOSED SALE. EMBASSY BERN MAY WISH TO COMMENT ON EXTENT OF SWISS INVOLVEMENT, WHICH KOOIJMANS SAID CREATED NO PROBLEMS FOR TH SWISS GOVERNMENT. GOULD UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 JUN 1975
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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